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ABSTRACT

Intended to show the general growth and development of the church library field, this bibliographical survey reviews periodical articles, published manuals, and unpublished library school papers related to libraries located in or attached to local church buildings. The following areas are explored: general studies: the role and function of church libraries: church library surveys: technical aids for church librarians (including manuals, book selection, cataloging, and promotion): bibliographic studies: and historical studies. Appendices provide a chart of unpublished studies arranged by subject, an author index, a list of published articles, and a bibliography of references to additional information. (FM)

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CHURCH LIBRARY LITERATURE

1950-1975

A Bibliographic Essay

Joyce L. White

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Introduction

A church library by definition and as used in this article refers to a library located in a church building, or at least in a building attached to the local church, such as the activities center, the parish house, or the education wing. It does not include those libraries located in church related institutions such as colleges, universities, parochial schools or seminaries.

The relationship of books with Christianity is one that goes backward hand in hand to the earliest days of the Christian Church, and, in fact, predates the church with the sacred writings of the Judaic tradition. In the earliest days, books were kept near the altar and were the Scriptures themselves in manuscript. From the sixth to the twelfth centuries, monastic libraries were attached to the abbey for the benefit of monastic study. Although the growth of universities later drew off books for academic study, still, in England especially, collections remained in parishes for the use of local clergy. This concept was transferred to the New World in the eighteenth century for the benefit of Anglican clergy and literate laity within their parishes chiefly through the efforts of the Reverend Thomas Bray. The rise of literacy among the laity during the nineteenth century was reflected in the development of Sunday School libraries, mostly for children. In the twentieth century, the trend toward secularism, and the separation of religion from public institutions has resulted in the concept of church libraries designed to serve the whole congregation.

Some denominations have been more active in this area than others, but through a variety of different approaches, almost all denominations are now involved with a nearly universal trend of establishing libraries to serve the needs of the local church on its own premises.

In this bibliographic essay, it is the intention of the author to show the general growth and development of the church library field through a review of some significant publications. At the same time, it is hoped that the reader will

observe areas worthy of further discussion and analysis which could be undertaken in academic study toward the ultimate recognition of church libraries as a valid area within the professional field of librarianship.

The original literature research was made possible by a grant from the Council on Library Resources during the academic year 1975/76.

General Studies

One of the earliest studies of the church library field was done by Lael P. Cappaert at the University of Wisconsin in 1951 and was entitled simply, "Church Libraries." In it she highlighted two fundamental ideas. One, that the concept of libraries in churches was being recommended by clergy and leaders of Christian education on both the adult and children's level, and second, that the problem of organization and operation of these libraries was a major source of concern. A review of her four page bibliography indicates that aside from four articles in Publishers' Weekly, prior to 1930 all literature pertaining to church libraries was carried in religious publications. Articles were published in Religious Education and in the International Journal of Religious Education frequently between 1940 and 1969. Two publications were developed to meet the field specifically, however. These were the Church Library Bulletin begun by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1944, and Bookmarks published by the Methodist Board of Christian Education in 1948.

In March 1952, a major article by O. Fritiof Ander, published in Illinois Libraries, presented the background and current state of church libraries to the library world. A substantially shorter article by J. O. Wallace had previously appeared in the Texas Library Journal in March, 1950. As Assistant Librarian at Huntingdon College, Evelyn Kocher wrote a short article describing her volunteer assistance in "Rehabilitating A Church Library" for The Alabama Librarian in July 1956. Just one year later, in 1957, the Catholic Library Association sponsored the first issue of the Parish Library Newsletter.

The following year, in 1958, Marilyn Hager, Technical Advisor in Church Library Service for the Southern Baptist Convention, submitted a major article to the Wilson Library Bulletin in which she described the growth of their work to "7,000 Church Libraries." In the fall of that year, a new publication was begun entitled Lutheran Libraries, carrying as its lead article the announcement of the

organization of the Lutheran Church Library Association.

At its meeting in March 1961, the Development Committee of the Southeastern Library Association discussed the subject of church libraries. A report of the discussion was subsequently published in the Summer, 1962 issue of Southeastern Librarian. The theme was carried on by John F. Anderson, Director of the Tucson Public Library, in his article published in the Library Journal for September 1st, entitled "Church Libraries: A Problem that Won't Go Away." In the same journal the following month (October 15th), Erwin E. John, founder of the library at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, questioned why "Church Libraries (were) Cause For Concern?" Momentum over the issue carried into the following year when Ruth S. Smith, librarian for both the Bethesda Methodist Church in Maryland and the Institute for Defense Analyses in Washington, D.C. set forth "The Challenge of Church Libraries" in the Library Journal for September 1st, 1963.

Apparently prompted by this lively topic, Joan C. Durrance submitted a thesis to the Library School at the University of North Carolina in 1964 entitled, "A Survey of Church Libraries." She based her work on current articles and gathered specific data from thirty church libraries representing ten denominations in the West Palm Beach and Lake Worth area of Florida. In it she presented a "picture of denominational church library service and its influence on the relationship to the local church library." She listed manuals published for the use of church libraries by eleven religious bodies and three others by non-denominational publishers giving some comparative data about them. In addition, she discussed various aspects of church library personnel such as church library committees, advisors, and librarians, showing the duties, training, experience and concepts of their roles as indicated in the various manuals. Considerable space was also given to the book collections, technical skills required, financing and housing of the church libraries under study. Mrs. Durrance stated that to her knowledge, the work was the first "such comparative study of church library materials."

It is an excellent consolidation of the state of the church library field in general at that time, including a good bibliography of the literature then available.

In 1964 and 1965, Drexel's Graduate School of Library Science in Philadelphia published the papers given at the Church Library Conferences in each of those years. Workshops were offered on all the technical subjects of cataloguing, book selection, organization of materials, circulation, etc. The following year (October 1966), the International Journal of Religious Education produced a special issue entitled, "Have A Church Library." This also included articles about the purpose, organization, financing, book selection and promotion of libraries within the church. In the same year, Urla M. Golden, a graduate student at Northern Illinois University, did a review of "Church Libraries" in which she described their prevalence and brief history, the attitude of the library profession toward them, some helps available to church librarians, especially in the area of classification and cataloguing, and a summary of recommendations for church libraries as presented in the manuals then available.

The winter 1967 issue of North Carolina Libraries was focused entirely on church libraries and the April 1970 issue of the Drexel Library Quarterly presented "a compendium of materials which survey the contemporary state of church and synagogue librarianship in the United States."

In an article published in Special Libraries in January 1970 entitled, "An Ecumenical Concern for Quality Service in Religious Libraries," Claudia Hannaford told of the formation in 1967 of the Church and Synagogue Library Association. "The Association was formed to encourage and aid the development of improved religious library services," stated the article, inasmuch as "church libraries form the most rapidly growing group within the profession." The Association began the publication of Church and Synagogue Libraries, a periodical for and about church libraries, in 1969.

Further recognition of the church library field was the inclusion of an

article on "church libraries" in volume 4 of the Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science published by Marcel Dekker, New York, in 1970. In her article entitled "Church Libraries; Unrecognized Resources," which appeared in the April 1971 issue of American Libraries, Joyce L. White, then librarian of the Penniman Library of Education at the University of Pennsylvania, pointed out that public libraries and library schools were just beginning to take notice of these specialized collections. An example of this observation are two term papers done on the subject of church libraries. Anita Norman wrote one in 1970 at the University of Texas in Austin and Patricia Johnson wrote the other at the University of Wisconsin School of Library Science in 1972. Mrs. Johnson's paper formed the basis of an article entitled "Church Libraries: Expanding Allies in Need of Help" which was published in the Wisconsin Library Bulletin in September 1973.

The only published Directory of Church Libraries was done at the Drexel University Press in 1967 by Dorothy J. Rodda and John F. Harvey. It listed 3200 church libraries with some characteristics about them drawn from the data. Information gathered in 1975 under a grant from the Council of Library Resources on 1800 church libraries is unpublished. An "Index to Information About Church Libraries" which was compiled by Joyce L. White at the same time is also unpublished.

Role and Function of Church Libraries

The first academic work specifically centered on church libraries was done in 1950 by James H. Hall as his dissertation at Washington University in St. Louis. It was a harbinger indicating the changing concepts in Christian education and the library's place in the new curriculum. His "Criteria for the Administration of Library Services in Christian Education in the Independent Autonomous Church at the Local Level" have become standard for the field.

For his master's thesis at Catholic University in 1954, John G. Nolan (later elevated to Monsignor) did the first study of "The Parish Library: Its Place in Parish Life, Its Function and Services." In it he points out the dearth of

literature at the time and indicates that two thirds of the literature about parish libraries between 1938 and 1953 had appeared in the Catholic Library World. From this information he digested the statement that "the primary purpose of a Parish Library is to make readily available to all parishioners the best of past and present Catholic literature." He also pointed out that a parish library is distinct from the parochial school library and from the Catholic Information Center Library. While the latter two are designed for Catholic children and non-Catholic adults respectively, the parish library is designed for the reading needs and interests of the Catholic adult. His survey of thirty libraries in the Washington, D.C. area at the time, indicated that parish libraries tended to have a life span of about ten years.

In a later study of the "Role of the Library in the Local Church," Rogene H. Field at San Jose State College in 1969 drew data from five Presbyterian churches in the Synod of Golden Gate. It was her intention "to discover whether the church library has a ministry of library service to perform in the local church." After a description of each of the five libraries in considerable detail, Mrs. Field concluded that the libraries surveyed" are performing an effective ministry to the Christian Education Department, the congregation and the local community. They provide the theological and special church materials in a depth that the public library cannot provide."

Although nearly all the manuals published for church libraries contain a chapter on the role of the library in the church, a few articles specifically touching the aspect did appear in periodicals between 1950 and 1975. One of these written by Don A. Gallimore appeared in North Carolina Libraries in 1967 and was entitled the "Role of the Parish Library." Another excellent article entitled, "Why Not a Parish Library?" by Jane Hindman was published in America in May 1958. Margorie McCutchan wrote "The Why and the How of a Church Library" for Discovery in 1964, and Gladys Scheer did another excellent article for the Lexington Theological Quarterly entitled "How and Why of the Church Library" in July 1968.

The Catholic Library World also carried an article by E. Lies in September 1961 entitled "The Role of Parish Libraries in Charting Truth."

In a thesis done by Susan C. Hawthorne at the University of Denver in 1973, are outlined the steps taken by one church "Toward a Church Learning Resource Center." The First Baptist Church of Davis, California, felt "the need for the establishment of a place where study on personal growth and education could be done and appropriate materials could be readily available." Such a resource center would be used not only by church members, but by the community, especially college students at a nearby University.

Two other studies were developed in abstract terms. Chryso G. Moissides at the University of Rhode Island in 1974 wrote a "Design for a Church Library." It is an outline of the theoretical steps and procedures to be followed by a local church. A similar study under the title "A Critical Analysis of the Need to Establish, Develop and Maintain Libraries in Parish Churches" was done by Andrew Missiras at the Lancaster Theological Seminary in 1975. Although both are stated to have been developed from practical personal experience, no reference is made to any specific location.

Church Library Surveys

By far the largest number of studies done in the area of church libraries are those which survey a set group of church libraries in a specific area. In most cases they were undertaken in denominational groupings. Generally these studies follow a similar pattern. They present a sketch of eighteenth and nineteenth century activity and then present the data acquired through use of questionnaires sent to the church libraries being surveyed. A composite of the returns include information about the existence, book selection policy, contribution of the libraries in specific churches and a statement of problems or recommendations concerning technical procedures and promotional ideas.

One of the earliest surveys undertaken was entitled "The Church Library with Special Emphasis on Church Libraries in Texas." Submitted to the Texas State College for Women by Dora M. Smith in 1951, it centers on the development of libraries in the Baptist and Methodist churches in the state. She points out the effect that the central church library services for each denomination (both headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee) have had on the growth of these libraries. An interesting companion study to Dora Smith's is one done by Marsha A. Hartos at the University of Texas in 1966 entitled "Provision of Libraries in Protestant Churches in the USA with Example of Current Practice Drawn from Libraries in Houston, Texas." In this, Ms. Hartos includes six specific case studies as well as an extensive discussion of the church library field fifteen years later.

In 1964, Lillonteen Whitehurst made "A Survey of the Purposes and Trends of Church Libraries in the Southern Baptist Convention of North Carolina" as her master's thesis at the University of North Carolina. Data compiled from thirty-two libraries showed considerable variation in purpose which was reflected in the type of book collections found. Some collections were strictly limited to publications of the denomination and some contained a large percentage of secular titles. Inasmuch as the training of the librarian is the responsibility of the denomination,

the philosophy of the denomination is naturally reflected in the operation of the library. Her main recommendation is that the church administration must provide moral as well as financial support to the volunteer and often untrained librarians in order for them to develop the collection and facilities by which the congregation can be adequately served.

Twin studies were undertaken in 1953 at Catholic University of America by Stephen A. Meder and Molly A. Mollahan. Both were entitled, "Library Resources and Services for Adult Catholic Readers," the first "In the City of Cincinnati, Ohio," and the second "In the City of Washington, D.C." Helen M. Coogan did a similar "Survey of Parish Libraries in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles" at Immaculate Heart College in 1961. From this latter study it was determined that seventy-seven parishes out of one hundred nineteen did have libraries and contributed data to the study. In addition, she made reference to earlier surveys of parish libraries such as one by L. L. Murphy published in Catholic Library World in 1941, and Charles Dollen at the University of San Diego in 1958. She made no mention, however, of the work by Meder or Mollahan. She did include, however, some description of the findings of some studies of individual parish libraries such as the one by Leo H. Meirose on "St. Elizabeth's Parish Library: A History and Survey" done at Western Reserve University, in 1951. Tabular data showed that aside from the parish library being combined with and housed in the parish school, a separate room attached to the church was the most popular location for the parish library. She also found a wide variety of times at which the parish library was accessible. Two-thirds, however, were open every Sunday morning.

Mae Weine did a "Survey of Synagogue Libraries in Philadelphia" at the Drexel Institute Graduate School of Library Science in 1955. The study was subtitled, "The Synagogue Library as a Factor in Jewish Education." A similar and equally fine "Survey of Libraries in Reform Jewish Temples in Nassau County, Long Island, New York" was done by Marilyn Mines at Long Island University in 1968. In it she

points out that "the temple library can be an invaluable asset to the cultural resources of a city, for it can be used by both Jew and Gentile as a research and reading source of Jewish materials." She mentions also four other studies of temple libraries done in the past fifteen years. These include one by H. Chaikind in 1962, a study of professional services in synagogue library gathered by the Jewish Library Association in 1963, and a study of Conservative Jewish congregational schools of New York by Phoebe Kapor in 1966, as well as the one by Mae Weine noted previously. An especially valuable chapter of Marilyn Mines' work is the comparison of findings of her study with the others mentioned. A short paper presenting the synagogue picture in the greater Philadelphia area draws its data from both Conservative and Reform synagogues. In it Susan Hochschild basically up-dates observations made prior to 1970 by other studies.

Beginning with a Research Paper by Marcy C. Wise at the University of North Carolina in 1967, several studies were done concerning Lutheran Church libraries. In this one the data presented was gathered in "A Survey of Parish Libraries in the North Carolina Synod of the Lutheran Church in America." A similar paper was done by Anita Norman three years later at the University of Denver entitled "A Survey of Lutheran Church Libraries in the Denver Area." The results of these studies showed great inconsistency between the size of the congregation and the size or existence of a library. Anita Norman points out, for example, that of eighty-two Lutheran churches in the Denver telephone book, fifty-two did have church libraries and forty returned the questionnaires sent. Her paper is therefore based on statistics from those sources. It is presented under the headings: organization, nature and size of the collection, purpose of the library, and the relationship to the Lutheran Church Library Association. Workshops run by the Lutheran Church Library Association was the topic of a study by A. Curtis Paul at the University of Minnesota in 1968. In "Church Library Workshops and Their Effect Upon Church Libraries" Curtis Paul analyzed and discussed the workshop sponsored

by the Lutheran Church Library Association held at Westwood Lutheran Church at St. Louis Park, Minnesota in 1964. The data was gathered through questionnaires sent to participants in that workshop. His conclusion was that although his data indicated a general benefit three years later to the participants, it was difficult to pinpoint a particular innovation at a specific church with the 1964 program.

Apparently the only study concerning specifically Episcopal churches was one done by Andrea G. Shirley in 1971 entitled "A Study of Episcopal Church Libraries in Nassau County" submitted to Long Island University Graduate Library School. Her data compiled from fourteen Episcopal churches with libraries that returned the questionnaire indicates that a majority of church libraries do not have a special room used only for the library, church history and devotional books are the most popular and that little attention is given to funding or promoting the libraries. She concludes by comparing these findings with those of Coogan, Durrance, Gray, Hartos and Whitehurst, all previously noted.

One of the first studies aside from denominational surveys was done by Shirley W. Maurath at Southern Illinois University in 1969. As a master's thesis at Southern Illinois University, she posited "A Feasibility Study for a Bibliographical Center for Religious Educational Materials in Carbondale, Illinois." In the study, she set out to learn what resources were available in the Carbondale churches, their degree of willingness to lend materials to each other, and the interest in cooperative financing to support a common source of materials and equipment. Data was gathered from thirty-one religious groups by means of questionnaires during the spring of 1969. The resulting conclusion was that insufficient interest was expressed to support the thesis.

In a research paper at Northern Illinois University, Ferne Weimer set out in 1974 to do a pilot study of comparison entitled "Church Libraries in Liberal and Conservative Denominations in the Valparaiso-Chesterton Area of Porter County,

Indiana." In conclusion she found variable factors such as denominational support, interest, finances, promotion, and size of the congregation as well as the book collection have considerably more affect on the success of a church library than does its liberal or conservative leanings.

Also in 1974, Ann J. Basile did a study at the University of Toledo on "Church and Synagogue Libraries in the Toledo Metropolitan Area." Her data was based on sixty-four congregations which were drawn from the religious bodies with libraries as listed in the Toledo, Ohio, telephone book.

Technical Aids for Church Librarians

Fully three quarters of the literature of church libraries is designed for providing "how to" assistance to volunteer librarians. Articles which appeared in the denominational journals for directors of Christian education, such as Christian Educator or Moody Monthly were usually focused on a specific aspect of church library operation. For example, Grace L. Forster wrote on "Suggestions for Cataloguing Your Church Library" in the October 1963 issue of the former magazine, and "Building Your Church Library" by Floyd W. Thatcher appeared in the latter in November 1956. Although nearly all the denominational journals carried articles on building or starting church libraries, the impetus for doing so found expression in manuals.

Manuals

In 1969, Robert A. Morrison undertook a study at San Jose State University on "Church Library Procedure Manuals and Their Use in Selected San Francisco Bay Area Churches." In a comparison of twenty manuals then in print, he found the one by Christine Buder, How to Build a Church Library published by Bethany Press in 1955 to be the one used by twenty percent of the churches surveyed. He also found that fifty-eight percent of the churches used the manual provided by their particular denomination as their primary aid. In content, nearly all the manuals are similar. Buder's includes chapters on how to begin, proceed, select and order books, prepare books and other materials for circulation, keep records, and promote use of the library. Her final chapter includes a dedication service for use on the opening of a library.

Your Church Library; A Manual of Instruction was also used by several churches other than Methodist, although it was published by the Methodist Church Library Service in 1960. Like the Buder manual, it has good illustrations. Another manual which Morrison found used by ten percent of the churches was The Church Library Handbook by Lavose Newton published by Cowman Publishing House in 1954. In a

chart on page 78 of his work, Morrison includes percentage use for ten other manuals used exclusively in the denominational churches of their publisher. These included three that were by then out of print. Written by Leona Althoff, Barbara Stark and Alice Straughan, they had been published by the Southern Baptist Church Library Service, the Congregational Christian Church Education Division, and Revell in 1937, 1952 and 1957 respectively.

In her study of "Church Library Problems and Resources," Elizabeth Fitch noted only two manuals that had been published prior to 1937. One was by Elizabeth L. Foote with an Abingdon Press imprint in 1931, and the other by Leone Lavender from the Southern Baptist Convention in 1932. The latter actually replaced an even earlier manual done ten years previously by Florida Waite in the same year that the Church Library Department of the Sunday School Board was organized.

Two manuals with especially attractive format though totally different from each other are those by Darrell M. Meinke and Erwin E. John. In the Key to a Successful Church Library, published by Augsburg in 1958 and in revised edition in 1967, Erwin John reproduces the individualized classification scheme developed for the library he organized at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. He states that since he did not want to use the Dewey Classification, he had nowhere to turn for help. Many church libraries have used his classification with satisfaction. The manual by Meinki entitled, "From Box to Bookshelf" was published in 1962 by Concordia Publishing House for the use of both school and church libraries. It is 8 1/2 x 11" with large print and clear pen-line illustrations.

For many years the Parish and Catholic Lending Library Manual by Fr. Vincent P. Schneider was published by the Catholic Library Association. It went into a second edition in 1965 but was eventually replaced by A Guide for the Organization and Operation of a Religious Resource Center.

In 1971, Elizabeth J. Laney did a "Comparative Study of Manuals for Technical

Processes in Church Libraries" as a research paper at the University of North Carolina. A few years later, Maryann J. Dotts developed a "Church Resource Library Manual" at Peabody College's School of Library Science in 1975. It was published by Abingdon the same year under the title, The Church Resource Library; How to Start It and Make It Grow.

Book Selection

Aid for the selection of books in church libraries is one of the most numerous types of articles to appear in denominational journals. Mostly these tend to be lists of new titles from the denominational publisher. An outgrowth of this literature is a study done by Marcia K. Matheson at San Jose State University in 1970. In her paper entitled, "Books Recommended for Establishing Book Libraries in the Wards of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints," she devotes the second half to an annotated bibliography of fifty books essential and basic to a church library for that church. A well laid-out Meetinghouse Library Handbook published in 1974 by the Church makes a good companion for use with the Matheson study.

Using another approach altogether, Elizabeth B. Lalonde made a "User Requirements Survey of Montview Blvd., Presbyterian Church" for a research paper at the University of Denver in 196?. In it she pointed out that the library there was started with fifty particularly selected books and that "a well adhered to policy of selecting books has made this an exceptionally fine library." She went on to describe the application of the policy over the years, the systematic withdrawal procedure, and the assistance provided by the Westminster Church Library Plan for the purchase of new books.

Three years later, in 1970, Julie Dockter, also at the University of Denver, did a study of the "Book Selection Policies of United Methodist Churches in Denver, Colorado." The conclusions showed that the ten Methodist Churches in the Denver

area surveyed did not reflect the "categories of materials as suggested by the general headquarters of the United Methodist Church." She also pointed out that many of the church libraries did not have as well balanced collections as at first appeared because the titles included books outdated by changing social needs or additional scholarship.

Three publications of the Church and Synagogue Library Association produced since 1973 for the assistance of volunteer church librarians in this area are Helping Children Through Books by Helen K. Ott, and A Basic Book List for Church Libraries by Bernard E. Deitrick. Their guide by Arthur W. Swarthout entitled, Selecting Library Materials was designed to provide sources for guidance in basic information about books prior to purchase.

In 1974, Lynda E. Herman did her research paper for the University of North Carolina on just how well the job of selection had been done in the "Provision of Religious Materials for Children by Four Church Libraries and One Public Library in Chapel Hill, North Carolina." The following year, John R. Lepke centered his attention at Western Michigan University on "The Information Needs of the Clergy." Basically, this is a compilation of the reference tools, bibliographies and indexes which the librarian and the clergy recognize as necessary to provide information needed by clergy in the execution of their church responsibilities.

Cataloguing/Classifying

The basic concern in church libraries (and in fact, in any library) is how to organize the books after they have been purchased. Church library literature reflects that concern. An article that appeared in the Lexington Theological Quarterly for October 1967 entitled, "Classifying the Church Library" by Gladys E. Sheer is probably the best example of periodical articles on the subject. The information was later incorporated in her manual published by Bethany Press in 1973 entitled, The Church Library; Tips and Tools.

Concern for "Organizing Materials for a Church Library" was also picked up by Dorothy H. Rhame as a topic for a Research Paper at the University of North Carolina in 1969. The paper is designed to be a manual for the use of Christ United Methodist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. As such it follows the content of most of the published manuals including very specific directions for classifying materials, both book and non-book items, and an outline for typing catalogue cards.

Meanwhile at Northern Illinois University in 1968, Urla M. Golden undertook a "Descriptive Study of the Suitability of the Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification 200 Schedule for Classifying Books in One Protestant Church School Library." In her section on a "Review of the Literature," she found that five out of six manuals she studied did recommend the abridged Dewey schedule for church library collections. Her most helpful and useful chapter includes an evaluation of the problems of classifying books of Bible stories, Biblical biographies, doctrinal theology, prayer, missions and religious education.

Undoubtedly the most complete and detailed assistance in the general processing of library materials including the cataloguing and classification of books and non-books alike, is the Church Library Development Plan published by the Church Library Department of the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School Board in 1969. This is a loose leaf publication including separate pamphlets for cataloguing, classifying and processing every type of library material, such as "How to Catalogue Materials by Subject," "How to Classify Church Library Books," "Cataloguing Vertical File Materials" and "Processing Audiovisual Materials Using Library Aids."

Recognizing the almost universal problem involved in this area of church librarianship, Nancy R. Banks set out to find some "Sources of Cataloguing Assistance available to Church Libraries and the Degree to Which They are Utilized by Nine Fort Collins, Colorado Church Libraries." In her thesis which she turned in to the University of Denver in 1973, she states that "most church librarians are

afraid to use the actual Dewey Decimal Classification, and that much of the literature encourages this fear." Furthermore, she reports that two results emerged which were not originally part of the survey. "First, there is no source available at this time which gives real help to an amateur cataloguer who is trying to decide what a particular book is really about, and secondly, the size and value of the collection does not have any absolute correlation with circulation."

It was just such recognition of need for assistance to volunterr amateur church librarians that underlay the formation of the Church and Synagugue Library Association, and the establishment of their policy to publish professionally respectable aids for the untrained librarian divorced from any denominational affiliation. Two such guides published in 1977 were Cataloguing Books Step by Step by Ruth S. Smith, and Classifying Materials for Church or Synagogue Libraries by Dorothy B. Kersten. A companion guide entitled Subject Headings for Church or Synagogue Libraries published by the Association in 1978 was also produced by Dorothy Kersten who held the position of librarian at the Cherry Hill United Presbyterian Church in Dearborn, Michigan, and was previously on the staff of the Detroit Public Library.

Promotion

The aspect of promotion is probably more accute for church libraries than for any other type, chiefly because the justification of time of volunteers and the implementation of the conceived role of the library in the church is evident only if it can attract voluntary readers. It is not surprising, therefore, that virtually all the periodical literature not specifically directed to the two areas of why have a library and how to perform the technical skills required, falls into this category. Basically, these articles are of two types: those which publicize the church library directly, and those which tell how to promote the library at the church itself. Margee Adams, for example, wrote "How to Enliven Your Church Library" for the A. D. Magazine in January 1974, while "Study Groups Need Resource

Books" by Charles H. McClung was published previously in Christian Educator in January 1960. The same magazine for January 1958 carried an article by Ruth H. Winters, entitled, "Promoting the Use of the Church Worker's Library." A somewhat different approach is reflected in James C. Logan's article published in the April 1968 issue of Christian Educator entitled, "Called to Ministry as a Church Librarian." "A Portable Parish Library" written by Mary E. Lafferty for Ave Maria in February 1957, and "The Church Library Reaches Out" by Ruth S. Smith in the April 1963 issue of International Journal of Religious Education illustrate still another type of article on the topic. Finally, some articles such as "The Ministry of a Church Library" which William Gentz did for the November 1977 issue of Church Management are directed specifically to the clergy.

In addition to promotion through periodicals, several books have been published on the subject of church library promotion. Library Services in the Church was compiled in 1969 by Wayne E. Todd for use as a text in the Christian Leadership Courses provided by the Division of Education of the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School Board. Augsburg Publishing House published two titles by Marian S. Johnson: Promoting Your Church Library in 1968 and Planning and Furnishing the Church Library in 1966.

Instrumental in the organization of the Church Library Council in the Washington, D.C. area in 1961, Ruth S. Smith prepared An Outline for Building Vitality into Your Church Library for use in its first Workshop. Basically, it is a manual containing information on all aspects of church library operation. The chapter entitled "Getting the Library Used" was expanded and published separately by Zondervan Publishing House in 1962 under the title, Publicity for a Church Library. In 1975, considerable new material was added and published by Hawthorne Books entitled, Getting the Books Off the Shelves; Making the Most of Your Congregation's Library.

In its brochure, the Church and Synagogue Library Association states that it

is designed "to investigate, discuss and promote every phase of church and synagogue librarianship." It is not surprising, therefore, that the second Guide published by the Association and revised in 1975 was entitled, Promotion Planning. An article in The Living Church for May 1978 was written by William H. Gentz, former president of the Association. Entitled "Every Church Needs a Library, And Here's Where to Get Help" it was meant to promote the Annual Conference of the Association, itself designed to promote church librarianship.

Bibliographic Studies

In February 1965, the American Library Association issued a mimeographed eight page publication entitled, "Church Libraries: A Bibliographic Guide to their Administration and Organization." It contained twenty-five annotated entries including titles of church library manuals and addresses of church library denominational service headquarters. The following year, Larry Murdock, then Reference Librarian at the University of Washington in Seattle, compiled a listing entitled "Church Libraries; A Bibliography of Sources of Information from 1876 through 1966." He listed the sources which he searched in order to produce the bibliography and included among them the Bibliographic Guide by the ALA mentioned above. This Bibliography in another arrangement was published in the Drexel Library Quarterly for April 1970 under the title, "Organizing to Meet the Challenge: The Literature of Church and Synagogue Libraries."

Another unpublished list was produced by the Church Library Council in Washington, D.C. in 1967 under the title, "Church Library Recommended Resources." Two years following, in 1969, the Church and Synagogue Library Association published its first Guide under the title, Bibliography of Church and Synagogue Library Resources. It was later revised and updated in 1975. The new edition ran to sixteen pages.

In 1971, Elizabeth A. Fitch submitted a thesis to the University of Minnesota entitled "Church Library Problems and Resources" in which she discussed the development of the literature about church libraries. Here she stated that prior to 1950, very few articles or manuals about church libraries were noted in Library Literature. A chart on page 34 of her study indicates that while five professional articles were published about church libraries in 1952, the subject reached a peak of 15 such articles in 1960. Since then between four and twelve articles have appeared annually.

In a short paper written in 1972, Claire Lilja tells of her attempts to locate information about church libraries in the libraries of the Islands for her research paper at the University of Hawaii entitled "A Plan for a Bibliography on Church Libraries."

Historical Studies

In 1967, three studies were completed that present historical aspects of the church library field. These were "The Church Library Movement in Historic Perspective" by Arthur W. Swarthout, "Historical Study of the Church Library and Christian Education" by Helen A. Palmer, and "The Church Library Council: An Example of Church Library Cooperation" by Merrill A. Kaegi.

In her work, submitted to Catholic University of America, Mrs. Kaegi develops the general history and particular background from which the Church Library Council in the Washington, D.C. area sprung. After a brief sketch showing the roots of church library activity in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, she "tried to select and describe those events that seemed to be most relevant to a study of the modern movement. The text is divided by three main divisions within the American religious scene: Protestant, Catholic and Jew." In the preface she states that the Church Library Council is not only a product of the modern church and synagogue library movement, but is also an example of the current trend toward inter-library cooperation transcending traditional religious barriers. The history of the Council, therefore, is simply a focal point around which to gather the history of a twentieth century library movement.

In her thesis presented to the Department of Librarianship at San Jose State College, Helen Palmer traces the development of the use of books in the history of Christian education from the first to the twentieth centuries. Throughout, she weaves the thread of the emerging church library as the techniques of teaching changed, showing ultimately the function of the church library in the twentieth century. In her final chapter, the author lists some recommendations for further development such as a centralized church library service, library school curriculum for church librarianship and even the concept of a church bookmobile. Two charts included in the appendix which show the existence of early ecclesiastical libraries and the evolution of church libraries are especially useful.

A research paper done at West Virginia Wesleyan College by Arthur W. Swarthout, then Assistant Professor of Library Science, also traces the eighteenth and nineteenth century background of the twentieth century church library movement. His focus is mainly on church library organizations and associations including the denominational services developed for the support of church libraries. He mentions the Church Library Department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, the Lutheran Church Library Association, the Pacific Northwest Association of Church Librarians, the Church Library Council, and the Church Library Conferences sponsored by the Drexel Institute Graduate School of Library Science. He concludes his paper with a description of the newly formed Church and Synagogue Library Association. A brief summary article of his paper was published in the March 1969 issue of West Virginia Libraries under the title, "A Library Movement Under Way - With Your Help."

Conclusion

Church library literature falls easily into three groupings: periodical articles, published manuals, and unpublished library school papers.

Although a few articles about church libraries appeared in religious journals before 1930, hardly a dozen were published on the subject in either religious or library journals until the mid-century mark. According to information gathered by Fitch, the number of articles published in professional library journals increased dramatically in the fifty years between 1920 and 1970. While no more than three articles had appeared in any one year until 1953, no fewer than five such articles have appeared each year since, with fifteen articles published in professional journals in 1960 alone.

The growth of church library literature, however, is really concentrated in the publication of manuals sponsored by denominational church library services. Although a church library manual was published as early as 1927, not more than ten were produced before 1950. During the decade to 1960, however, eleven denominations published manuals for use in libraries of their churches. The following ten year period saw another eighteen such manuals appear on the market. Manuals on specialized topics, however, were not introduced until after the organization of the Church and Synagogue Library Association in 1967.

Like the other two categories of church library literature, academic studies of the subject have also increased dramatically since mid-century. According to the U. S. Office of Education Bulletin (OE-15044) entitled, Library Science Dissertations: 1925 to 1960, only two items are listed under the heading "church libraries," and one falls outside the present definition of the term. A check of Library Literature over the twenty-five year period from 1950 to 1975, however, shows that studies in the field have been doubling each decade. Between 1950 and 1959, nine theses or research papers were done in the field of church libraries. This figure doubled to eighteen in the following decade. Moreover, in the five

year period from 1970 to 1975, another eighteen such studies were undertaken. Of these studies, however, all but three obtained data from a questionnaire-survey concerning some aspect of library operation sent to churches of a given denomination in a limited geographical area. Considerable room for investigation and research still remains, therefore, concerning the political, library, religious, and academic aspects of church librarianship.

In the twentieth century, the trend has been set toward the separation of religion from publicly funded institutions. The result will continue to reduce all types of religious literature from public school and library collections. The role of the church library, therefore, will inevitably become more and more important not only to local church members, but also to the communities in which the church library is set, as it becomes the only outlet for books from religious publishers.

Church libraries, on the other hand, must begin to view themselves as a special-type library within the total library world. They must not try to be, nor ought they to be thought as being, little public libraries nor distinctive nationally significant collections of literature. They must be designed to support the programs of their parent churches and to provide religious resource materials for their members which are not readily available - and indeed, may not be expected to be available - at the local public library.

Fifteen years ago, professional librarians began to notice church libraries as a problem that would not go away. They were both right and wrong; right in the fact that church libraries will not go away, but wrong in the fact that they must remain a problem.

APPENDIX

Unpublished Studies By Subject

	General	Surveys	Role	Manuals	Book Sel.	Cat./Class.	Prom.	Bibliog.	Historical
1950			1						
1951	1	3							
1952									
1953		2							
1954			1						
1955		1							
1956									
1957									
1958									
1959									
1960									
1961		1							
1962									
1963									
1964	1	1							
1965									
1966	1	1							
1967		1			1			1	3
1968						1			
1969		1	1	1		1			
1970	1	1			1				
1971		2		1				1	
1972	1							1	
1973			1			1			
1974		2	1						
1975			1	1	1				

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